

3-30-1965

Address by Representative William L. Dickinson (R-Ala.)

Congressional Record

Follow this and additional works at: https://egrove.olemiss.edu/citizens_clip

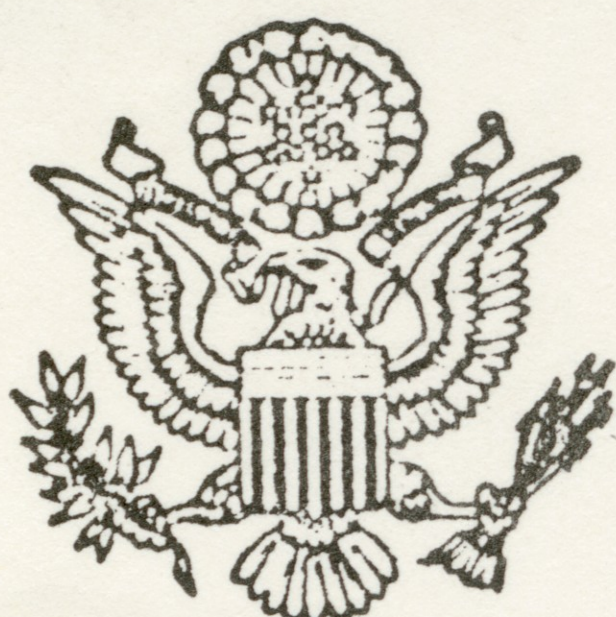


Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Congressional Record, "Address by Representative William L. Dickinson (R-Ala.)" (1965). *Clippings*. 66.
https://egrove.olemiss.edu/citizens_clip/66

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Citizens' Council Collection at eGrove. It has been accepted for inclusion in Clippings by an authorized administrator of eGrove. For more information, please contact egrove@olemiss.edu.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 89th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 111

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 1965

No. 57

ADDRESS BY REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM L. DICKINSON (R-Ala.)

March 30, 1965

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

6113

MARCH ON MONTGOMERY—THE UNTOLD STORY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under previous order of the House, the gentleman from Alabama [Mr. Dickinson] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. DICKINSON. Mr. Speaker, last week Alabama witnessed the climax to weeks of civil rights activities in my State. It was a week which brought literally thousands of men and women of many races, colors, and creeds to participate in what has been widely considered as a kind of holy crusade for human rights. During this period there were scores of confrontations between demonstrators and law enforcement agencies—resulting in many arrests. There was discord, there was violence, there was death, all of which we deplore. From all of this a completely distorted picture of the State of Alabama has been painted. It is a picture of a place peopled by vicious, racist bigots whose only joy is found in the suppression of the Negro race; in the denial of the Negro's right to vote and to participate as a first-class citizen of his State and his Nation; a place where the Negro's search for simple human dignity must go forever unrewarded; a place where the Negro must live out his days in constant terror of police brutality and bombs that explode in the night.

Mr. Speaker, this is an image of Alabama widely accepted as accurate by many people in this Nation and the rest of the world today. It is, however, an image which has been deliberately, knowingly, and purposefully contrived. I have pointed this out before on this floor. It is, in short, but a part of an effort to divide and to conquer this Nation—and if this effort goes unchallenged, it may well accomplish its purpose.

There is a story here, however, that has been untold and, for the most part, is unknown. While I have but one small voice and what I say here may go unheeded, I would be remiss in my duties if I did not speak the facts for all of America to know—and the facts which I am about to relate are true and I can substantiate every fact. Mr. Speaker, if you think these facts are vile and obscene and are unpleasant to hear, I agree. But think what it is like to have witnessed them and had them occur in your community.

First and foremost there was not one big group of moralists and Negro sympathizers that invaded Selma and marched on Montgomery. There were four distinct and usually identifiable groups intermingled and participating in a common effort but each for its own motives.

This has been characterized by some and depicted as a type of holy crusade. Let me read you a circular actually handed out to the marchers by some of those participating in the march:

WELCOME FREEDOM MARCHERS TO HOLLYWOOD BURLESQUE

(Produced by Paul Moscovitz and Peggy Anne)

GIRLS—GIRLS—GIRLS—GIRLS—GIRLS—GIRLS

Entertainment and refreshments furnished free to all freedom marchers by the Hollywood 10 Committee in cooperation with the Ooed Committee To End Bigotry and Censorship.

(Note to ministers: We appreciate the cooperation given this spectacular, modern adventure in person-to-person entertainment by some of you who have cast off the chains of the past. Several of you, including perhaps the leader himself, are trying to make you look too pious and too old-fashioned. Please prevail upon the holdbacks to let the show go on in all of its unrestricted glory, fun, frolic, and warmth.)

TENT 9 NIGHTLY

Tent 9 will be pitched each evening ahead of the march, and the gala burlesque review will begin when the crowd arrives. Let every good man arrive.

(Note to southern girls: Come join in the fun if you can cast off the old-fashioned ideas, whether of racial bigotry or medieval moronic morality. Hollywood's greatest tradition beckons you. Come, meet Paul and the boys.)

Is this circular out of character with the rest of the march? Look at the participants.

One group was the Alabama Negro who participated to help secure rights and privileges which he felt had been withdrawn from him illegally. And there are many instances where this has been so—especially historically. This is not universally so in Alabama, however—only in isolated areas and none of these areas recently.

A second group are the do-gooders—those from outside our State who have no personal interest or involvement but who, out of compassion for those whom they are convinced need help and, although misinformed and misguided as to both the full facts and how those whom they seek to help can best be helped, come and participate in the marches, demonstrations and even serious civil disturbances. This group, for the most part are serious, sincere, educated people such as the clergy, nuns, teachers and other professional people. While their purpose may be noble, to a large extent they defeat their own aims because they worsen the condition they seek to improve. Let me hasten to add, however, that not all men who profess to be men of God and who don the clerical garb participate for altruistic reasons. Many are the type Jesus had in mind when he said:

And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, they have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to the Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

We of our State do not condemn the first group. Perhaps we would react similarly in like circumstances. We can recognize the good intentions of the sec-

ond group even though we know their method is wrong.

These two groups, however, make up only a small part of the total effort. Both of these groups are in fact being victimized and used as unknowing tools of the other two groups involved. In the final analysis the Alabama Negro will not achieve what he seeks by the means he now employs, nor will the do-gooders have helped him permanently.

The third group, also a tool being used by the fourth group, are human flotsam: adventurers, beatniks, prostitutes, and similar rabble. They flock to the standard of civil rights because this clothes them with a morality and a purpose which they otherwise lack. The fact is that they are recruited to be full-time demonstrators. They are promised \$10 per day, free room and board and all of the sex they want from opposite members of either race. Free love among this group is not only condoned; it is encouraged. It is a fact and their way of life. Only by the ultimate sex act with one of another color can they demonstrate they have no prejudice.

Do I exaggerate? The pamphlet I have read at the beginning of my talk was distributed among the marchers from Selma to Montgomery. Drunkenness and sex orgies were the order of the day in Selma, on the road to Montgomery, and in Montgomery. There were many—not just a few—instances of sexual intercourse in public between Negro and white. News reporters saw this—law enforcement officials saw this, and Mr. Speaker, photographs were taken of this, I am told. I have not seen the actual photographs, but they are being processed and compiled.

Negro and white freedom marchers invaded a Negro church in Montgomery and engaged in an all-night session of debauchery within the church itself. The leadership of the church had to get help to have these freedom marchers put out of their church and even had to have the telephone disconnected because of the long-distance calls. Urinating in the street was not uncommon during demonstrations and more than one of these freedom marchers was arrested for indecent exposure in a public place.

Has anyone stopped to ask what sort of people can leave home, family and job—if they have one—and live indefinitely in a foreign place demonstrating? This is no religious group of sympathizers trying to help the Negro out of a sense of right and morality—this is a bunch of godless riffraff out for kicks and self-gratification that have left every campsite between Selma and Montgomery littered with whisky bottles, beer cans, and used contraceptives. I am prepared to prove these facts.

If you wonder why the Reverend Norman C. Turesdell, of Wubuque, Iowa, Rabbi Richard Rubenstein, chaplain of the University of Pittsburgh, and many other ministers and religious leaders left the so-called freedom march in disgust, this is the reason.

(OVER)

Who then, is the one or group that puts these groups together—that gives it cohesiveness, strength, money, and direction? Who or what can weld this diverse group together into a formidable force that can—and has—overcome? The answer is this: the Communist Party.

There are those that make a living out of seeing a Communist behind every bush or tree—or some Communist conspiracy or plot in every action of the State Department or foreign diplomacy. Let me assure you that such is not the case with me. I have not wanted to believe it—but I have been convinced. There are some in the Congress that do not want to believe it—and will not listen to the facts.

A few weeks ago a group of 14 Members from this House made themselves a committee to go to Selma to look into the situation there. In the course of the testimony that was given there, Judge Bernard Reynolds, probate judge of Dallas County, started mentioning the fact that there were Communist influences at work in the streets of Selma. He was interrupted by one of the visiting gentlemen with the remark:

We don't care anything about that. Let's leave the Communists out of this.

I was later impressed with the evident truth of this statement when a vote of the Congress was taken to give or deny an appropriation to the House Un-American Activities Committee. Thirteen of these same fourteen Members voted against the House Un-American Activities Committee—the very committee of this body whose job it is to find out about communism in the U.S.A.

I am sure there are others here and elsewhere that "don't want to hear about Communists." But the facts are here for anyone that has eyes to see. The Communist Party and the Communist apparatus is the undergirding structure for all of the racial troubles in Alabama for the past 3 months.

Look at the speakers on the platform in front of the capitol in Montgomery or participating prominently in the march and demonstrations.

First. Carl Braden: A well-known Communist who has been active in civil rights activities for several years. Carl Braden has been active in so-called civil rights efforts for several years in the South. He was once convicted for conspiring with Negroes in Kentucky to bomb other Negroes' houses.

Second. Abner Berry: One of the directors of the Communist Party in the United States was in and out of the Selma-Montgomery area—and was photographed, I am told. I have not seen the photograph.

Third. James Peck: Field secretary for CORE. He has a Federal criminal record. Mr. Peck and a group of demonstrators once tried to prevent the launching of our first nuclear submarine. Later, he was forcibly removed from a nuclear test area in the Pacific where he had sailed with another group of demonstrators in an attempt to halt our Government's nuclear test program. Does anyone honestly believe that Mr.

Peck is interested in Alabama Negroes' civil rights?

Fourth. Bayard Rustin: Rustin heads an organization known as the War Resisters League—which is the U.S. branch of an international organization known as War Resisters International. The purpose of this organization, in other words Mr. Bayard Rustin's chief business, is to persuade and to aid young men to avoid compulsory military service to their country. As recently as 2 years ago, Bayard Rustin's War Resisters League shared offices in New York City with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Council—otherwise known as Snick. Snick was cosponsor, along with Martin Luther King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference of the Montgomery march. Bayard Rustin, by his own admission in the Saturday Evening Post, was a Communist Party organizer for 12 years.

Fifth. And what about the king himself—King Martin Luther. The only man in America that can announce when he will see the President—and it becomes a fact. Martin Luther King himself has amassed the staggering total of more than 60 Communist-front affiliations since 1955. In spite of which Dr. King has been quoted as saying last summer in Greenwood, Miss., that "there are no more Communists in the Mississippi summer project than there are Eskimos in Florida." With King at the time he made this statement was Bayard Rustin, who served as King's executive secretary for 3 years. King has also said that there are no Communists in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Hunter Pitts O'Dell, who took the fifth amendment before the House Un-American Activities Committee, and who was identified by witnesses as a Communist Party member, worked for more than a year with King's SCLC movement. King repeatedly denied that O'Dell was connected with his organization until the facts were proven otherwise, then he admitted that O'Dell had been employed by the SCLC. When King promoted the demonstrations in Birmingham in the summer of 1963, police identified and photographed a number of known Communist and suspected Communist sympathizers in King's supporting groups. His chief of staff at that time was Wyatt T. Walker. Mr. Walker is today editorial advisor to the Progressive Labor Movement, which has been described by Mr. J. Edgar Hoover as a Marxist-Leninist group following the more violent Chinese Communist line. The fact is that Martin Luther King has been virtually surrounded by Communists or Communist-fronters since 1955. No man in America has received more praise or more space coverage in such Communist newspapers as The Worker and People's World as Martin Luther King.

The logical question follows, why would the Communists want to do this? What will they gain? The answer is that years ago a systematic plan was started by the Communists to divide the Deep South from the rest of the Nation by the very tactics they are now using. Divide and conquer. They are being eminently successful. The most disturb-

ing thing about it is that the U.S. Government knows all these facts. That the FBI has a file on King Martin Luther and all the others I have mentioned. Yet the Government helped promote the occurrences in Alabama and even had an Under Secretary of State participate on the program with known Communists. Leroy Collins, Director, Community Relations Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, participated in the march. Government officials participate in such activities, and the Justice Department assists in their promotion, all with knowledge and consent of the President.

Mr. Speaker, I implore this body to cast aside all prejudice by color—pro or con. Forget race and look at all the facts objectively. Recently the American public has been made colorblind to the point that black makes red white. America must substitute reason and fact for emotion. We must wake up before it is too late. It may be too late now.

AFFIDAVIT

I, Karl Prussion, a former counterspy for the Federal Bureau of Investigation from 1947 to 1960, do hereby swear under oath and under penalty of perjury, that from the years 1954 through 1958 I attended five county committee meetings of the Communist Party of Santa Clara County, Calif. (A county committee meeting of the Communist Party consists of one delegate representing each Communist cell in a county.) The meetings were held during the aforementioned period in the following locations: The residence of Robert Lindsay, Communist, in San Jose, Calif., 1954; the residence of Mary Field, Communist section organizer, Palo Alto, Calif., 1955; the residence of Isobel and Edwin Cerny, both Communists, Menlo Park, Calif., 1956; the residence of Gertrude Adler, Communist, Palo Alto, Calif., 1957; the residence of Karl Prussion, counterspy for the FBI, Los Altos, Calif., 1958; the residence of Myra White, Communist, Mountain View, Calif., 1959.

I hereby further solemnly state that at each and every meeting as set forth above, one Ed Beck, Communist, who is presently secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People of San Mateo County, Calif., and a member of the Congress on Racial Equality (CORE), presented the directive from the district office of the Communist Party in San Francisco to the effect that: "All Communists working within the framework of the NAACP are instructed to work for a change of the passive attitude of the NAACP toward a more militant, demonstrative, class struggle policy to be expressed by sit-ins, demonstrations, marches, and protests, for the purpose of transforming the NAACP into an organization for the achievement of Communist objectives."

I further swear and attest that at each and every one of the aforementioned meetings, one Rev. Martin Luther King was always set forth as the individual to whom Communists should look and rally around in the Communist struggle on the many racial issues.

I hereby also state that Martin Luther King has either been a member of, or wittingly has accepted support from, over 60 Communist fronts, individuals, and/or organizations, which give aid to or espouse Communist causes.

KARL PRUSSION.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28th day of September 1963.

GEORGE E. SEARLES,

Notary Public.

My commission expires September 17, 1966.

REPRINTS --- 10¢ each, 15 for \$1, 100 for \$3 postpaid.

Order from: THE CITIZENS' COUNCIL
301 E. Washington Street
Greenwood, Mississippi